

Message Text

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ACTION PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 EUR-25 DRC-01

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R 051614Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2384

INFO SECDEF

CNO

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

COMFAIRMED

COMFAIRMEDREP AHENS

CHJUSMAGG

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 761

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, GR, US

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS ON SOUDA AB AND HOMEPORTING PHASE II

REF: (A) ATHENS 0332; (B) ATHENS 0558; (C) STATE 20093.

SUMMARY: IN MEETINGS WITH GREGORIADES AND MIGLIARESSIS, EMBOFFS URGED THAT DATE BE FIXED FOR NEGOTIATING SESSION ON SOUDA AB, DELIVERED GENERAL PAPER PROVIDING RATIONALE FOR PHASE II, ARRANGED ORIENTATION TOUR OF ACTUAL AND PROSPECTIVE HOMEPORTING SITES, AND AGAIN CONVEYED MESSAGE THA GRANT AID WOULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING. END SUMMARY

1. ON FEB. 5, DCM BRANDIN AND POL/MIL OFFICER PUGH MET WITH GREGORIADES, DIRECTOR, 5TH DIRECTORATE FONOFF, AND AMONG OTHER TOPICS (SEE SEPTTEL) DISCUSSED PROSPECTS FOR
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SCHEDULING NEGOTIATING SESSION SOON ON SOUDA AB. GREGORIADES

STATED THAT, ALTHOUGH COORDINATION WITH GREEK MILITARY AGENCIES HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, HE HAD YET TO DISCUSS ISSUES INVOLVED WITH HIS SENIORS IN FONOFF AND COULD NOT SET A DATE UNTIL THIS WAS DONE. BUT WHEN PRESSED, HE INDICATED THAT THEY MIGHT BE READY TO DISCUSS THE AGREEMENT IN A WEEK OR SO.

2. EMBOFFS SUBSEQUENTLY MET WITH MIGLIARESSIS, DIRECTOR 3RD DIRECTORATE, AND DELIVERED COPIES OF THE "LIST OF U.S. REQUIREMENTS FOR PHASE II" REQUESTED BY DIRGEN TZOUNIS (PARA 6, REF A) AND PREPARED BY COMFAIRMEDREP. EMBOFFS THEN ARRANGED TO TAKE MIGLIARESSIS TO ELEFSIS PIER SITE, MEGARA BAY, AND ELEFSIS AB ON FEB. 12 IN ORDER TO ORIENT HIMSELF PRIOR TO NEGOTIATING ON PHASE II.

3. DCM MADE POINT OF CONVEYING MESSAGE OF PARA 4, REF C, REGARDING UNLIKELIHOOD OF RESUMING GRANT MILITARY ASSISTANCE. MIGLIARESSIS REMARKED THAT HE RECOGNIZED RESUMPTION OF GRANT AID WOULD BE CONTRARY TO U.S. POLICY OF SHIFTING RECIPIENTS TO CREDIT BASIS, NOT TO SPEAK OF DIFFICULTIES ANY SUCH ATTEMPT WOULD ENCOUNTER WITH THE CONGRESS. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD TOLD THE GREEK MILITARY IT WOULD "BE QUITE IMPOSSIBLE" FOR USG TO RESUME GRANT AID. HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN, HOWEVER, THAT STRENGTHENING OF BULGARIAN FORCES, APPREHENSION RE EFFECT ON GREEK SECURITY OF MBFR, AND STATE OF DECAY TO WHICH RELATIVE NEGLECT HAD REDUCED MUCH OF HAF WERE COMPELLING REASONS FOR SOME KIND OF ASSISTANCE, PERHAPS EXCESS AIRCRAFT. EMBOFFS NOTED THAT PROSPECTS IN THIS REGARD WERE QUITE LIMITED AND THAT JUSMAGG WAS IN TOUCH WITH GREEK MILITARY ON THIS PROBLEM.

4. MIGLIARESSIS SAID THAT NOMIKOS OF GREECE EMBASSY IS UNDER INSTRUCTION TO INQUIRE RE AVAILABILITY OF \$50 MILLION FOR F-4E PAYMENTS, AND HE NOTED THAT LATE RECEIPT OF SUCH FUNDS CREATED PROBLEM FOR GOG. EMBOFFS NOTED THAT EMBASSY RECENTLY INFORMED THAT NECESSARY STEPS CURRENTLY BEING TAKEN. MIGLIARESSIS ADDED THAT NOMIKO ALSO IS TO ASK ABOUT EXCESS AIRCRAFT AS REPLACEMENTS FOR OBSOLETE AIRCRAFT STILL IN GREEK INVENTORY.
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